I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: January 4, 2010

Electronic Signature for William A. Di Bianca: /William A. Di Bianca/

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437 CIPCIPCIPCIPCIPCON IV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

:

Errico et al.

:

Application No.: 10/784,628

: Group Art Unit: 3733

:

Filed: February 23, 2004

: Examiner: C. L. Negrelli

:

For: INSTRUMENTATION FOR INSERTING

AND IMPACTING AN ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC IN AN

INTERVERTEBRAL SPACE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated August 4, 2009, finally rejecting claims 1, 4-7, and 9-11, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: